

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 21, 22, 31, and 42 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A network hub in a communication network comprising a server, the server configured to detect status information from the communication network and push the status information to a client without a request for the status information from the client, wherein the status information ~~includes~~ comprises network information, and wherein the network information comprises information about the communication network.

2. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 1, wherein the server unicasts the status information.

3. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 1, wherein the server transmits the status information to a plurality of clients.

4. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 1, wherein the server broadcasts the status information.

5. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 1, wherein the server multicasts the status information.

6. (Original) The network hub of claim 1, wherein the hub comprises one of a switch, a repeater, a bridge, a router, a gateway, and a hybrid thereof.

7. (Original) The network hub of claim 6, wherein the network hub comprises one of an OSI Layer 2 network switch, an OSI Layer 3 network switch, and a hybrid thereof.

8. (Original) The network hub of claim 1, wherein the hub is devoid of a microprocessor.

9. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 1, wherein the status information comprises a predefined status field.

10. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 9, wherein the predefined status field comprises a push transmission field.

11. (Original) The network hub of claim 6, further comprising a plurality of ports.

12. (Original) The network hub of claim 11, wherein the operational information comprises a predefined status field.

13. (Original) The network hub of claim 12, wherein the predefined status field corresponds to at least one of the plurality of ports

14. (Original) The network hub of claim 1, further comprising memory register for storing the information therein

15. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 1, wherein the status information comprises a management information base (MIB) statistic.

16. (Original) The network hub of claim 1 further comprising a MIB engine.

17. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 16 further comprising a switching fabric and a transceiver integrally contained therein.

18. (Original) The network hub of claim 17 further comprises an address resolution table integrally contained therein.

19. (Original) The network hub of claim 15 further comprising a MIB engine.

20. (Original) The network hub of claim 9 further comprising a MIB engine for pushing the predefined status field.

21. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus, comprising:

a network information detector configured to detect network information from a communication network;

- a. a network information table configured to store ~~storing the~~ network information ~~from~~ detected by the network information receiver ~~detector~~; and
- b. a network information transmitter configured to selectively push ~~transmitting the~~ network information in the network information table without a request for the network information, wherein the network information comprises information about the communication network to which the communication apparatus corresponds.

22. (Currently Amended) The communication apparatus of claim 21, further comprising at least one of:

- a. a network information receiver, operably coupled with a communication network and the network information table, receiving network information; and
- b. a network operations analyzer analyzing the networking information in the network information table and producing information of a state of the network.

23. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus of claim 22, comprising a hub, a switch, a repeater, a bridge, a router, a gateway, and a hybrid thereof.

24. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 21, comprising a plurality of ports coupled to the network information transmitter.

25. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 23, comprising one of an OSI Layer 2 network switch, an OSI Layer 3 network switch, and a hybrid thereof.

26. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 24, comprising one of an OSI Layer 2 network switch, an OSI Layer 3 network switch, and a hybrid thereof.

27. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 26, wherein the plurality of ports comprises four ports.

28. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 26, wherein the plurality of ports comprises eight ports.

29. (Previously Presented) The communications apparatus of claim 21, further comprising a transceiver and a switching interface, each of the network information receiver, the network information table, and the at least one of the network information transmitter and the network information detector being integrated into the network hub.

30. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus of claim 29, wherein

the network hub comprises one of a switch, a repeater, a bridge, a router, a gateway, and a hybrid thereof.

31. (Currently Amended) A communication apparatus, comprising:

- a. a network information receiver, operably coupled with a communication network, ~~for receiving~~configured to receive network information;
- b. a network information table ~~for storing~~configured to store network information from the network information receiver;
- c. a network operations detector ~~detecting~~configured to detect the networking information from the communication network and ~~producing~~produce operational information of an operational state of the network; and
- d. a network information transmitter, ~~for transmitting~~configured to transmit the operational information of an operational state of the network without a request for the operational information, wherein the network information comprises information about the communication network.

32. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus of claim 31, further comprising a network hub.

33. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus of claim 32, wherein the hub comprises one of a switch, a repeater, a bridge, a router, a gateway, and a hybrid

thereof.

34. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 33, comprising a plurality of ports.

35. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 33, comprising one of an OSI Layer 2 network switch, an OSI Layer 3 network switch, and a hybrid thereof.

36. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 34, comprising one of an OSI Layer 2 network switch, an OSI Layer 3 network switch, and a hybrid thereof.

37. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 36, wherein the plurality of ports comprises four ports.

38. (Original) The communication apparatus of claim 36, wherein the plurality of ports comprises eight ports.

39. (Previously Presented) The communications apparatus of claim 32, further comprising a transceiver and a switching fabric, each of the network information receiver, the network information table, and the at least one of the network information transmitter and the network information detector being integrated into the network hub.

40. (Previously Presented) The communication apparatus of claim 39, wherein the network hub comprises one of a switch, a repeater, a bridge, a router, a gateway, and a hybrid thereof.

41. (Previously Presented) The network hub of claim 1, wherein said status information further comprises at least one of hub status information and server status information.

42. (Currently Amended) A status apparatus for use in a communication network, comprising:

a network hub in a communication network, and

a server in communication with the network hub, configured to detect status information from the communication network and push status information regarding the network hub to a client without a request for the status information from the client, wherein the status information ~~includes~~ comprises network information, and wherein the network information comprises information about the communication network.